

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P 200900Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1139

S E C R E T AMMAN 2147

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, JO, US -- OVIP (CROWN PRINCE HASSAN)

SUBJECT: CROWN PRINCE'S VISIT

REF: STATE 077640

1. IN TALK WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN, HE INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF OUR INABILITY TO MAKE SOBER AVAILABLE PRIOR TO HIS PLANNED DEPARTURE ON TRIP WHICH WILL TAKE HIM TO UNITED STATES. HE ASKED IF I COULD RETURN FOR VISIT, AND I NOTED THAT I HAD ALREADY SPENT TOO MUCH OF MY TIME OUT OF JORDAN IF AM GOING TO BE AMBASSADOR HERE, (3 OUT OF 6 AND ONE-HALF WEEKS), BUT THAT AID/ECON COUNSELOR SIMMONS WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON AT SAME TIME. HE READILY AGREED AND SAID HE THOUGHT SIMMONS SHOULD BE COMPLETELY INVOLVED IN HIS VISIT SO THAT EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, GOJ CONTINUITY COULD BE MAINTAINED.

2. EMBASSY WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH HASSAN'S PRIVATE SECRETARY (MARWAN QASEM) APRIL 20 TO WORK OUT DETAILS HIS VISIT. PRESENT TRAVEL SCHEDULE HAS HIM LEAVING FOR TEHERAN APRIL 28, GOING FROM THERE TO TAIPEI, ARRIVING TOKYO MAY 5-6 AND DEPARTING FOR U.S. MAY 11-12. HE WANTS TO VISIT BOEING IN SEATTLE IF POSSIBLE AND PERHAPS IMPERIAL VALLEY IN CALIFORNIA OR ANOTHER AREA RESEMBLING, AGRICULTURALLY, JORDAN VALLEY.

3. DISCUSSED QUESTION OF BUDGET SUPPORT. HE NOTED
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THAT CY74 BUDGET ALREADY SHOWED A DEFICIT OF 12M JD'S

(\$US 36M), BUT WITH NEW SALARY INCREASES, THIS WOULD GO UP, PERHAPS ANOTHER \$US 5-10M. HASSAN ESPECIALLY IRRITATED THAT WHENEVER CURRENT BUDGET ACCOUNT FALLS SHORT, ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE TAKEN FROM DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT IN SUCH AREAS AS HOUSING. WANTS HIMSELF TO TRY TO NAIL DOWN WHAT WE WILL BE PROVIDING FOR FUTURE SO HE CAN PREVENT RAIDS ON FUNDS ALLOCATED TO DEVELOPMENT, WITHOUT DISCUSSING SPECIFICS, I TOLD HIM SITUATION FOR THIS U.S. FISCAL YEAR STILL CLOUDY, BUT HOPED TO HAVE SOMETHING MORE CONCRETE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR FAR EAST OR ALTERNATIVELY FOR HIS ARRIVAL IN U.S.

4. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, EMBASSY/AID STAFF WILL MEET WITH HASSAN AND ROYAL SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY GROUP OF ECONOMISTS TO DISCUSS FULL RANGE OF COMMENTS PROVIDED TO HIM ON PAPERS WHICH HE BRIEFED SAUNDERS/PICKERING ET AL ON DURING SECRETARY'S LAST VISIT. THIS WILL SUBSTITUTE, IN PART, FOR SOBER'S BREAKING-IN VISIT HERE. WE WILL REPORT RESULTS.

5. GAVE HASSAN OUTLINE (CABLE SUMMARY) OF COPPER STUDY. HE PROMISED REVIEW THIS AND GIVE US REACTION.

COMMENT: TREND HERE AT WORKING LEVEL SEEMS MORE AND MORE IN DIRECTION OF STICKING WITH FRENCH AND USING BATTELLE AS GOVERNMENT CONSULTANT. HOWEVER, GOJ HAS NOT YET DIGESTED BATTELLE PROPOSAL, AND WE SUSPECT, HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A FULL FRENCH PROPOSITION. END COMMENT.
PICKERING

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